

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 127597
ORIGIN SS-25

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA NIACT IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 127597

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, TU

SUBJECT:ECEVIT LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT

REF: STATE 123838

1. FOLLOWING FOR YOUR INFORMATION ONLY IS FULL TEXT OF
MESSAGE FROM TURKISH PRIME MINISTER ECEVIT TO PRESIDENT
CARTER DATED MAY 15.

2. BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: YOUR MESSAGE OF
MAY 11 REACHED ME DURING MY VISIT TO BONN.

3. I STUDIED THE DRAFT DECLARATION PROPOSED FOR THE FORTH-
COMING NATO SUMMIT MEETING CAREFULLY, AND FOUND THE TONE
RATHER STRONG AND CHALLENGING AND I THOUGHT THAT IT MIGHT
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PROVOKE MANY STATES TO HARDEN THEIR POSITIONS, THUS RE-
SULTING IN A SPEEDING UP OF THE ARMAMENTS RACE. MANY OF US
WILL BE SPEAKING IN THE SPECIAL SESSIONS FOR DISARMAMENT
OF THE UNITED NATIONS RIGHT BEFORE OR RIGHT AFTER THE NATO
MEETING IN WASHINGTON AND I FEEL THAT THE PROPOSED DECLARA-
TION WOULD SOUND RATHER OUT OF TUNE WITH THE WAY I PERSON-
ALLY WOULD BE INCLINED TO SPEAK IN THAT IMPORTANT UNITED

NATIONS MEETING.

4. IN VIEW OF THE LIMITATIONS IMPOSED ON HER POSSIBILITIES
OF MAINTAINING HER MILITARY STRENGTH, TURKEY CANNOT AFFORD
TO BE PROVOCATIVE TOWARDS HER NEIGHBORS.

5. WE ATTACH GREAT VALUE TO DETENTE IN PRINCIPLE. BE-
SIDES, UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT TURKEY PRESENTLY FINDS
HERSELF IN, SHE HAS A STAKE IN DETENTE TO WHICH SHE MUST
MAKE HER OWN CONTRIBUTION IN HER OWN WAY AND BY KEEPING IN
VIEW HER OWN POSSIBILITIES AND LIMITATIONS.

6. MY GOVERNMENT CANNOT THEREFORE, SUBSCRIBE TO A DECLARA-
TION WHICH, IN OUR VIEW, IMPAIR DETENTE ALTHOUGH I AM SURE,
THIS IS NOT YOUR INTENTION EITHER.

7. LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN WASHINGTON SOON MR.
PRESIDENT, I REMAIN, WITH HIGHEST REGARDS, SINCERELY YOURS,
BULENT ECEVIT PRIME MINISTER OF TURKEY. END TEXT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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